

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

College of Education
Department of Secondary Education
600 College Park, 800 N. State College Blvd, Fullerton, CA

March 23, 2015

To: History/Social Science Committee

Re: Need for Latino history included in the draft Framework for History/Social Science

I am Assistant Professor at a major public university and have been a teacher educator for the last eight years. In my work with as a researcher, former social studies teacher, and as someone directly involved with Latina/o communities for the past twenty years, I whole-heartedly support revising the History/Social Science Framework to be more inclusive of Chicano/Mexican-American history. Latinos comprise nearly 39% of the population in California, making them as of 2014 the largest ethnic group in the state, with 84% of Latinos being of Mexican descent (Pew Hispanic Center, 2014).

Based on my review of the Framework, I propose the following revisions.

On Line 2014, Page 351 Amend the description to include:

From 1994 on, political campaigns in California and other states pass a series of anti-immigrant propositions and laws (Prop.187. Prop.227). All but one provision of Prop.187 was blocked by the federal courts citing U.S. constitutional protections. In 1996 the Immigration Reform Act passed by U.S. Congress provides for increased border enforcement and benefit cuts.

From 2003 political conflict and controversy become national issues along with low quality public schools and lack of employment opportunities. In response the Latino community becomes increasingly politically active, increasing their voter registration and participation, changing the political make up of first the California legislature, then the federal congress. Latinos become the largest ethnic group in California 2010, a plurality of all residents, and Latino children become more than 51% of the public school students.

I propose that you include the above in a revised framework. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Miguel Zavala, Ph.D. Assistant Professor

Miguel Zavafa

Department of Secondary Education California State University, Fullerton mizavala@fullerton.edu

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